

they are located. LSCA funds are used to strengthen materials collections, supplement budgets in areas such as postage and telecommunications and provide special database searching capabilities.

8) STRENGTHENING METROPOLITAN PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

Advances in automating vital library functions such as cataloging, circulation and reference strengthen the ability of major metropolitan libraries to provide important and timely services to their patrons. Because of the cost of researching, evaluating, purchasing and implementing new automation options, the State Library uses LSCA funds to supplement local funding for such systems.

9) LIMITED ENGLISH-SPEAKING PROFICIENCY:

The major project in this area is support for the North Carolina Foreign Language Center, a statewide service that is housed in and operated by the Cumberland County Public Library and Information Center. The center acquires, catalogs and loans materials including books, cassette tapes and videotapes in sixty different languages. In addition to interlibrary loan services, rotating collections of foreign language materials are available on deposit to public libraries across the state.

10) SERVICES TO THE ELDERLY:

Many of the state's public libraries have elected to use portions of their yearly LSCA enrichment grants to support activities in this area. These activities include, but are not limited to, the purchase of special materials and support for special library outreach services.

11) COMMUNITY INFORMATION AND REFERRAL CENTERS:

LSCA enrichment grant funds are used by public libraries to strengthen reference collections, acquire database searching capabilities, participate in the statewide library networking program and acquire additional materials and/or equipment to enhance their reference and information referral capabilities.

12) LITERACY:

Literacy is a critically important area for North Carolina. The State Library provides literacy support on a statewide level through a grant project to the North Carolina Literacy Association whose primary goal is to establish and strengthen local literacy services on a